(घ) क्या सरकार ने ऐसे मामलों के निपटान में विलंब के लिए अधिकारियों का दायित्व निर्धारित करने हेतु कोई नियम बनाये हैं, यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ङ) यदि नहीं, तो इस संबंध में क्या-क्या प्रयास किये गये हैं?

वित्त मंत्री तथा कंपनी कार्य मंत्री (श्री पी० चिदम्बरम): (क) जबकि वाहनों की क्षति से संबंधित दावों का निपटान सामान्यतया, दावाकर्ताओं से अपेक्षित दस्तावेज प्राप्त होने के पश्चात् कर दिया जाता है, तथापि, तृतीय पक्ष के दावों का निपटान न्यायालय के फैसले के पश्चात् किया जाता है:—

(ख) अपेक्षित सूचना नीचे दी गई है:

(संख्या लाख में)

कम्पनी का नाम	वर्ष		
	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
नेशनल	1.04	1.09	1.50
न्यू इंडिया	1.63	1.71	2.14
ओरिएंटल	1.25	2.03	1.85
यूनाईटेड इंडिया	1.47	1.26	1.30
	5.39	6.09	6.79

(ग) अपेक्षित सूचना नीचे दी गई है:—

लम्बित दावों की संख्या (आंकड़े हजार में)

कम्पनी का नाम	एक वर्ष तक	दो वर्ष तक	तीन वर्ष तक
नेशनल	35.58	2.81	1.98
न्यू इंडिया	107.68	16.31	11.34
ओरिएन्टल	25.97	22.05	10.92
यूनाईटेड इंडिया	58.65	25.28	17.19
जोड़	227.88	66.45	41.43

(घ) और (ङ) कम्पनियों के दावों के त्वरित निपटान के लिए विभिन्न उपायों की शुरूआत पहले ही कर दी है और यदि कोई अधिकारी चूक का दोषी पाया जाता है तो कम्पनियों के आचार, अनुशासन और अपील नियमों में आवश्यक कार्रवाई के लिए प्रावधान है।

Expanding Branches of Commercial Banks

3580. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased o state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to expand the branches of different commercial banks during the Ninth Plan;

(b) if so, the names of the States where the branches of different banks are proposed to be expanded; and

(c) the details of the places selected in those States to open new branches in Ninth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that they do not have any specific branch expansion programme during the 9th Plan. Under the extant branch licensing policy of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), it is left to the judgement of commercial banks to open branches in metropolitan, urban and semi-urban centres after assessing the need therefor and obtaining the approval of RBI. The proposals for opening of rural branches identified by the banks which are recommended by State Governments/Union Territories are also considered by the RBI on merits.

However, RBI have given freedom to banks which fulfil the under mentioned criteria to open new branches:

(i) compliance with capital adequacy norms of 8 per cent;

(ii) minimum owned funds of Rs. 100 crores;

(iii) the ban showing net profits for three consequtive years; and

(iv) non-prforming assets not exceeding 15 per cent of total outstanding loans.

RBI have advised the banks satisfying the above criteria to submit to them a yearly plan duly approved by their Board of Directors for opening branches to enable RBI to advise their concerned Regional offices for issue of licences.

RBI have further reported that during the year 1995-96, they have issued 569 authorisations to public sector banks to open branches in various States/Union Territories.

Inclusion of Dalit Christians in scheduled caste category

3581. SHRI JOY NADUKKARA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to include the Dalit Christians into the category of Scheduled Castes; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to amend the present law and by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) and (b) The matter of recognition of Scheduled Caste converts to Christianity as belonging to Scheduled Castes is under the consideration of the Government.

Aid received from abroad for hospitals

3582. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what annual aid was received from abroad for Health Services in the country during the last three years, hospital-wise;

(b) what is the annual expenditure incurred by Government on each of such hospital during this period; and

(c) the annual aid which is likely to be received from abroad for health during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) and (b) Central Government does not generally receive assistance for Hospitals except as part of programme assistance in which interalia some hospitals get upgraded. The external assistance available for central health sector programmes in the last three years was as under:—

1993-94	Rs. 82.85 crores
1994-95	Rs. 114.45 crores
1995-96	Rs. 216.07 crores

(c) During the current year external funding to the extent of Rs. 370.00 crores is expected for the health sector. This interalia includes assistance for upgrading the Kalawati Saran Children's Hospital, New Delhi under Japanees financial support.

Heavy loss to Doordarshan on account of Chandrakanta Serial

3583. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Doordarshan has incurred heavy loss on some serials like 'Chandrakanta' which had been run at prime time and extended to a number of episodes beyond limit and proportion over months and years on end;

(b) if so, the details of serials on which losses have been incurred from 1993-94 onwards;

(c) how many episodes were permitted to be telecast in each case and the amount of loss incurred in each case; and

(d) the reasons for permitting numerous episodes despite losses?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) to (d) The infor-